

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7820

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 07444

NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO, CI

SUBJECT: UNESCO COMMITTEE ON CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMEN-
DATIONS IN EDUCATION; CHILE

REF: STATE 55572

1. PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT SUBJECT COMMITTEE WILL PROBABLY FORWARD SOME SORT OF RECOMMENDATION FOR EXBD CONSIDERATION ALTHOUGH, AS REFTEL NOTES, COMMITTEE IS NOT REQUIRED TO TAKE ACTION BEYOND REPORTING ON ITS CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINTS TO UNESCO AGAINST CHILEAN GOVERNMENT.

2. CHILEAN PERMDEL (BERGUNO) ASSUMES HE WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND COMMITTEE AND SUSPECTS HE WILL BE VIRTUALLY ALONE IN DEFENDING HIS GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER HE HAS BEEN TOLD BY OTHER L-A COMMITTEE MEMBERS (MEXICO, ARGENTINA AND JAMAICA) THAT THEY WILL SEEK ACTION OF MOST MODERATE NATURE IF COMMITTEE CONSENSUS INSISTS ON RECOMMENDATION OR PROPOSAL FOR TRANSMITTAL TO EXBD. MEXICAN AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO (CUEVAS-CANCINO) SEPARATELY CONFIRMED TO PERM
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REP THAT, IN LINE WITH HIS GOVERNMENT'S NOW CONCILIATORY

STANCE TOWARDS CHILE, HE WILL JOIN ARGENTINE (DELL ORO MAINI) AND JAMAICAN (WYNTER) IN ADVOCATING MODERATE STANCE.

3. COMMITTEE COMPRISED OF EXBD MEMBERS FROM ARGENTINA, CONGO (B), FINLAND, FRANCE, GHANA, HOLLAND, JAMAICA, - JAPAN, MEXICO, SAUDI ARABIA, SENEGAL, SRI LANKA, USSR AS WELL AS U.S.

4. HOWEVER KEY FACTOR WILL BE STANCE TAKEN BY SOVIET COMMITTEE MEMBER (TIKHVINSKY). UNLIKE RECENT UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SESSION, THERE IS NO IMMEDIATE TRADE OFF POSSIBLE RESTRAINT ON CHILE IN RETURN FOR RESTRAINT ON SOVIET INTELLECTUALS. WHILE BERGUNO CAN USE LATTER AS DEBATING POINT, THE INTRODUCTION OF A COUNTER-RESOLUTION WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO AWAIT THE NEXT EXBD AS THIS COMMITTEE CONVENED SPECIFICALLY TO CONSIDER HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLAINTS AGAINST CHILE ALONE.

5. LOOKING AHEAD, JUNE EXBD WILL HAVE ELECTION OF NEW CHILEAN MEMBER TO REPLACE PABLO NERUDA AND WILL CONSIDER REPORT OF DG, WRITTEN BY JIMINEZ (ADG FOR RMO) WHO VISITED CHILE, ON STATUS OF UNESCO OPERATIONS IN WAKE OF COUP. CHILEAN PERMREP (BERGUNO) SAYS DRAFT OF LATTER REPORT "NOT TOO BAD" WHICH IN CONJUNCTION WITH PRESENCE OF NEWLY ELECTED CHILEAN EXBD MEMBER MAY HAVE MODERATING INFLUENCE ON EXBD DISCUSSIONS.

6. NEVERTHELESS, ACCORDING TO BERGUNO, ONLY SPAIN OF EX BD MEMBERS HAS VOLUNTEERED TO DEFEND NEW CHILEAN REGIME. MOREOVER EXBD MEMBERS ARE OF COURSE EXPOSED TO ANTI-CHILEAN GOVERNMENT OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN LOCAL MEDIA AND ESPECIALLY IN LOCAL INTELLECTUAL CIRCLES. THIS CLIMATE OF OPINION HARDLY ENCOURAGES MEMBERS WITH NO DIRECT INTERESTS INVOLVED TO COME TO DEFENSE OF CHILE. SPANISH SUPPORT OF LIMITED VALUE BECAUSE OF THEIR POLITICAL ORIENTATION, ACCORDING TO BERGUNO. CHILEAN PERMREP ALSO AWARE THAT PREVALENT MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT U.S. AND CHILE WOULD CAUSE VIGOROUS U.S. DEFENSE TO BE MISCONSTRUED OR DISMISSED OUT OF HAND.
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7. AT THIS POINT BEST HOPE FOR COMMITTEE APPEARS TO BE THAT LATIN AMERICAN MEMBERS WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN CONSENSUS ON LEAST OBJECTIONABLE WORDING OF FINAL REPORT AND OF WHATEVER ACTION IS RECOMMENDED. PERMDEL INCLINED TO ASSUME LOW PROFILE WHILE URGING, DURING COMMITTEE AND ESPECIALLY IN CORRIDOR, CONSIDERATION OF MATTER IN REASONED AND DISPASSIONATE MANNER.

8. DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED.
STONE

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